

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Colonial Germantown Historic District - (Boundary Increase)

and/or common Germantown Avenue Historic District - (Boundary Increase)

2. Location

street & number 6500-7600 blocks, Germantown Avenue from Sharpnack St. n/a not for publication

to southern boundary, Chestnut Hill Historic District.
city, town Philadelphia n/a vicinity of

state Pennsylvania code 042 county Philadelphia code 101

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	n/a in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	n/a being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Various

street & number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds

street & number 153 City Hall

city, town Philadelphia state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Northwest Phila. Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate 1983 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Pa. Historical & Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7.1 INTRODUCTION

This proposed extension of the Colonial Germantown Historic District includes all or part of 12 blocks from Sharpnack Street to the right-of-way of the old Ft. Washington branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Sharpnack Street now defines the northern boundary of the existing Colonial Germantown District; the right-of-way the southern boundary of the Chestnut Hill Historic District. The current district encompasses over five hundred buildings in a space of 21 blocks. The extension increases this total by over 50%, containing 264 buildings within its boundaries. It continues the historical and architectural features of the existing district with a healthy mix of residential, commercial and institutional uses.

The extension contains a total of 264 buildings: 27 (10.2%) erected prior to 1850, 72 (27.2%) between 1850 and 1900, 139 (52.7%) between 1900 and 1930, and 26 (9.9%) since 1930. Of these, 62 have been considered significant to the character of the district (23.5%); 179 (67.8%) contributing to the district; and only 23 (8.7%) are definite intrusions into the district by reason of age and architectural appearance. The earliest known building within the extension was constructed in 1740, the most recent in 1984. The styles represented within the extension include the Colonial Revival, Georgian Revival, Art Deco, Art Moderne, and several utilitarian styles not easily classified. One of the key descriptive phrases in the revised nomination of the Colonial Germantown Historic District (1982) applies equally well to this nominated extension: "While largely consistent in scale, and material, the stylistic range of the district fully parallels the changing tastes of American Architecture from the Colonial to the Modern period."

The buildings within the proposed extension stand generally two stories high. Several three-story commercial and residential edifices, as well as 1-story structures, help break the monotony. It also contains a variety of types of buildings, including architect-designed individual commercial, institutional and residential structures, and builder-designed rows, stores and houses. Most of these buildings are constructed of brick with either exposed brick or stuccoed exteriors. A number of buildings, chiefly the pre-1870 structures and the buildings on the campuses of the Lutheran Home, the Lutheran Theological Seminary and the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, are stone structures. The stone used in these buildings is generally a native Wissahickon schist, known in architectural circles as Germantown or Chestnut Hill stone.

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7.2 USES

By far, the heaviest type of use found within the extension is commercial. Indeed, most of the major commercial activity within Mt. Airy is located on Germantown Avenue. The extension includes the small commercial strip from Sharpnack Street to Gorgas Lane/Carpenter Lane and the more important Mt. Airy Shopping District between Mt. Pleasant Avenue (7100 block) and Allen's Lane (7300 block). The former district is a continuation of a shopping area which begins below Sharpnack Street.

This lower commercial strip located in the lower three and a half blocks between Sharpnack Street on the south and Carpenter Lane/Gorgas Lane on the north contains several early 20th century rows of brick commercial, residential and mixed use buildings. These are generally built around earlier stone, stuccoed and brick residential and commercial buildings. The two blocks between Carpenter Lane/Gorgas Lane and Mt. Pleasant Avenue have a number of institutional uses with a mixture of styles and designs employed. The Lutheran Home at 6926-6950 Germantown Avenue alone has 18 buildings ranging in date from the late 18th century to 1974. Between Mt. Pleasant Avenue and Allen's Lane stands an almost exclusively commercial area with brick commercial rows from the 1890s and 1920s highlighting the lower end and a number of architectural significant, architect-designed, examples of 1920s commercial architecture in the middle of these two blocks. Above Allen's Lane appears the campus of the Lutheran Theological Seminary on the east side with its collection of late 19th and early 20th century stone educational buildings surrounding two early stone and stuccoed mansion houses. The west side of this block is completely residential with a row of brick houses, two single houses and a brick apartment complex. Between Gowen Avenue (7400 block) and the northern boundary of the proposed extension appear several stone structures both north and south of the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf campus on the west side, and several rows of stone and brick houses on the east side.

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7.3 STYLES

Owing to the 240+ year difference in ages between the oldest and youngest building within the extension, many different styles may be found from the rude Colonials to modern styles which have yet to be adequately named. By and large, the majority of the buildings are generally the utilitarian residential and commercial styles of the early 20th century, designed and built by contractors and speculators. However, a large number of architects and master builders did work within the proposed extension and produced notable buildings of virtually every major style found in America prior to 1930.

7.3.1 Colonial and Federal

The general pattern of building along Germantown Avenue has been to place the house or building right along the building line and have all of the open space on the side and rear of the structure. The style of architecture during Colonial times was simple: a sidegabled stone 2 1/2-story building with four or five openings on each floor and one or more dormers. After the Revolution, more attention was spent attempting to mold these simple patterns with architectural details in vogue at the time, especially as Philadelphia was the foremost city of this period in the new nation. The changes from the simple details of rural settlers constructing a shelter, churches and public buildings to the more formal arrangement of plan and design of the houses built in the last decade of the 18th century may be seen by comparing Cresheim Cottage at 7402-7404 Germantown Avenue and the Beggarstown School at 6669 Germantown Avenue to the Gorgas House at 6901 Germantown Avenue and the Miller Homestead at 7331 Germantown Avenue.

7.3.2 Early and mid-19th century

Housing styles among the yeoman peoples of Germantown Township did not appreciably change from the late 18th to the early 19th centuries. The small sidegabled 2 1/2-story dwellings seen at 6540-6542, 6657-6659 and 6618 Germantown Avenue are but later examples of the same style of architecture characterized by the Cresheim Cottage and which was constructed throughout the Philadelphia region during the 18th century.

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The middle of the 19th century saw many changes in the employment of architectural styles. These included the adaptation of such styles as the Gothic Revival and the Italianate to the basic farmhouse design. The Leibert House (6926 Germantown Avenue) and the St. Michael's Parsonage (6671) stand as excellent examples of this adaptation. The first houses built in strict interpretation of styles appeared in the 1850s, i.e., the Italianate Garrett House at 7048 Germantown Avenue. Details of the Italianate were used extensively for commercial architecture throughout the remainder of the 19th century. In fact, the earliest extant structures built for commercial use within the extension still retain these details. These are two small stores at 6536-6538 Germantown Avenue built between 1857 and 1861.

7.3.3 Late 19th century

Architects and builders during the late 19th century produced a veritable grabbag of styles. As with the existing Colonial Germantown Historic District, the Second Empire, the Queen Anne, and the Victorian Gothic became the standard for new construction and remodeling within the proposed extension. Other styles also appeared, often on single buildings and not repeated. Many buildings in the 6800 block still exhibit their original Second Empire appearance, including 6817-6819 and 6845 Germantown Avenue. It is also during this period that architects begin to work on designs within this area. George T. Pearson planned the original Queen Anne chapel to the Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church in 1884 to which Joseph Huston designed the present Gothic-inspired church building as an addition at the corner of Mt. Pleasant Avenue. Hazlehurst & Huckel designed the Queen Anne Davis House, now Fyfe & Miller Funeral Home, at 7047 Germantown Avenue, Geissinger & Hales started work on the Victorian Gothic Main Dormitory at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, and the Wilson Brothers and Cope & Stewardson contributed the major stone buildings comprising the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, designed primarily in a Victorian Gothic style.

The late 19th century also saw the arrival of the commercial building as it is known today: a building designed and built with planned commercial spaces within them. Chief among these are the two Flemish-styled buildings designed by William L. Price as part of the Pelham development on the west side of Germantown Avenue in the 6600 block. Rows with mixed commercial and residential uses also appeared during this period, i.e. 7116-7134 Germantown Avenue, built in 1898.

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7.3.4 Early 20th century

Since the majority of the buildings within the proposed extension were constructed or remodeled during the early 20th century, it is the styles employed within this time period which characterize the overall appearance of the district.

The predominant style found is that of the early 20th century rowhouse utilitarian with a ground floor storefront, and either two openings or a metal bay on the second floor with a metal cornice on top. There exists one row of three-story buildings with two-story metal bays on the upper levels in the 6700 block. These rows, primarily built between 1915 and 1925, stand in the 6600, 6700 and 7100 blocks. There also exist several rows of two-story residences in the 6700, 7300, 7400 and 7500 blocks. All of these rows, both residential and commercial, have the flat roofs typical of their style.

However, as with the latter years of the 19th century, many architects worked on buildings within the proposed extension. They used the Colonial and Georgian Revivals with excellent effects throughout the first half of the present century. The first examples of the Revival styles appeared in the Pelham development where Lawrence V. Boyd designed a stone Colonial Revival house for Clement Lowe at 6630 Germantown Avenue in 1904, followed by Thomas & Churchman's brick Georgian Revival bank for the Pelham Trust Company at 6740 Germantown Avenue in 1907 and Boyd's brick Georgian Revival post office at 6700 Germantown Avenue in 1909. Watson & Huckel contributed two works to the extension: the Krauth Memorial Library of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1906 and Miss Gorgas' Store at 7152 Germantown Avenue in 1909. Components of the Revival styles were incorporated in many structures along the Avenue during the early 20th century. Later prime examples of the style executed in the 1920s and 1930s stand within the complexes of the Lutheran Theological Seminary and the Lutheran Home and at 7208-7210 Germantown Avenue, the Mt. Airy National Bank.

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During the late 1920s, buildings also began to appear clothed in the latest fashionable styles including the Art Deco and the Art Moderne. These Moderne styles came into vogue in the post-World War I period. In an effort to revitalize the major Mt. Airy Shopping District, several developers, led by Ashton S. Tourison and his family, began an effort to replace many earlier 18th and 19th century structures with modern buildings able to cater to the needs of the neighborhood. The Tourisons especially were instrumental in the construction of William H. Lee's Art Deco design for the Sedgwick Theatre at 7133-7141 Germantown Avenue (1926-1928) and Tunis & Baker's Art Moderne Tourison Building at 7200-7206 Germantown Avenue. Ashton S. Tourison, Jr., also designed and constructed the Rogers Building in an Art Moderne style in 1928-1929.

7.4 INTEGRITY

The proposed extension to the Colonial Germantown Historic District has lost little of its integrity over the years. Historically, it has been an environment of many different uses and contained many different types of buildings to service these uses. As previously mentioned, less than 10% of the buildings within the extension have appeared within the last fifty years. Among the older buildings, there have been some remodeling of storefronts but few buildings have suffered complete disfiguring alterations.

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7.5 CONCLUSION

A comparison of styles, building types and materials, and uses, between the existing Colonial Germantown Historic District (also known as the Germantown Avenue Historic District) and this proposed extension shows that in all of these factors, the extension is just what it claims to be: an extension of the areas now on the National Register of Historic Places. Owing to its geographical position north of Germantown and south of Chestnut Hill, it was not fully developed until after these two areas had reached much of their potential. Over 50% of its buildings were erected between 1900 and 1930, approximately 10-25 years after the major building boom along the lower end of the Avenue. Therefore the overall appearance of the area appears to be just a bit later architecturally. However, the same styles are employed in both the existing district and the extension. In the same manner, contractors and builders used the same materials for the same types of structures. The use of stone was prevalent until the post-Civil War era when brick became popular for commercial structures and rows, both commercial and residential. Stone was still used for more substantial structures up until 1940. Limestone and granite faces on brick buildings became standard on buildings designed in the Art Moderne styles. The mixed uses found in the extension echoes those found in the existing district. Residential rows and single houses are located throughout the lower area and non-commercial and non-residential uses in both the existing district and the extension create areas of openness not normally associated with densely built commercial zones in Philadelphia.

On account of all of the visual reasons cited above, this area should be considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as an extension to the existing Colonial Germantown Historic District.

NPS Counting Purposes: The nominated district contains 231 contributing and 23 non-contributing buildings. Ten of these buildings--one at the Beggarstown Academy (6669 Germantown Avenue), and nine at the Pennsylvania Institute for the Deaf and Dumb (7500 Germantown Avenue)--have already been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1744-1940 Builder/Architect various

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

8. 1 INTRODUCTION

This nomination proposes to increase the boundaries of the Colonial Germantown Historic District by adding approximately 12 blocks along Germantown Avenue to the northern end of the existing district. The proposed extension parallels the significance of the existing district in the areas of architecture and commerce. Further, the proposed extension is significant in terms of education owing to the presence of several historically important educational facilities.

The Colonial Germantown Historic District was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1965, and was included in the National Register of Historic Places in the following year. In 1974 the National Park Service prepared a National Register Nomination Form which improved the documentation of the district and clarified its boundaries. The 1974 nomination form primarily addressed the district's 18th century significance. In 1983 the National Park Service accepted added information which extended the period of significance to World War II and further explained the district's significance in terms of architecture, commerce and community planning.

The proposed extension of the Colonial Germantown Historic District is integral to the district's commercial and architectural significance as represented in the 1983 added information for the district. In fact, the architectural and commercial history of the existing district and the proposed extension are intertwined to such a degree that one finds difficulty to separate them using any set of criteria. Community planning does not play such an important role generally upon the twelve blocks included in this enlargement; at least not in a conscious and discernable role during their formative years. On the other hand, these nominated blocks do contain an area of significance not shared by the existing district for a number of past and present educational institutions located within the extension have either left their mark upon or continue to influence this area today.

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One should realise, however, that this extension should not stand upon its own significance. It is being nominated as a warranted enlargement of the existing district: their significances and histories are tied closely. For example, the wide range of architectural styles and dates of construction, and the equally wide range of types of uses and building materials, found within the Colonial Germantown Historic District, which are considered of significance to the existing district, are mirrored throughout the nominated enlargement. Therefore, this essay will focus upon the relationships between the existing district and this proposed enlargement, demonstrating why the northern boundary of the Colonial Germantown Historic District is in fact an unjustified boundary and that it should be redrawn some twelve blocks to the north along the old right-of-way of the Ft. Washington Branch, Pennsylvania Railroad, a boundary which now serves as the southern boundary of the Chestnut Hill National Historic District.

The original nomination had a contradictory northern boundary. In 1982-1983, the parameters of the district were revised to securely fix this northern boundary at Sharpnack Street and to recognize the continuing value of Germantown Avenue to the southern communities incorporated in Germantown Township before 1854 and within the 22nd Ward after the Act of Consolidation of the same year. This new nomination, requesting for an extension of the boundaries of the existing district, argues that the north boundary is awkwardly located with no historical or architectural grounds for its present placement and that Germantown Avenue has had as equal an impact to the growth, development and commerce of the central communities within the old Germantown Township as it has to those located in the southern and northern reaches. Therefore, the entire length of Germantown Avenue from Windrim Avenue to the junction of the Avenue with the Chestnut Hill Historic District should be included on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the same district.

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Germantown Avenue began as an Indian path from the Delaware River into the interior of Pennsylvania. When Francis Daniel Pastorius brought the original German settlers to Pennsylvania in 1683, he and William Penn agreed on a grant of 5700 acres bordering this path. Known as German Township or Germantown Township, it was divided into four villages: Germantown, 2750 acres, extending from the present Wayne Junction to Carpenter Lane (6900 block); Cresheim, 884 acres, from Carpenter Lane to Mermaid Lane (7700 block); Sommerhausen, 900 acres, from Mermaid Lane to Rex Avenue (8700 block), and Crefeld, 1166 acres, from Rex Avenue to Northwestern Avenue (9800 block). This arrangement did not last long. However, it became apparent that the residents of Germantown Township routinely considered that the township was split into two sections: Germantown as described above, and the "hind part of Germantown" encompassing the areas of Cresheim, Sommerhausen and Crefeld. This distinction was eventually eliminated by the beginnings of the 19th century. However, in 1844, the township was divided again when Germantown was granted borough status and the remaining areas stayed as the township. Ten years later, the consolidation of the city and county of Philadelphia brought an end to borough and township forms of government. Germantown Borough and Germantown Township became one again as part of the 22nd Ward of the City of Philadelphia. Not until 1965 would the old township be completely broken apart into various wards and other political districts.

Owing to the various systems of government experienced by the lower part of Germantown Township between Wayne Junction and Carpenter Lane, this section has historically been considered under one name: Germantown. However, a late 19th century development west of Germantown Avenue between Horrtter Street (6600 block) and Carpenter Lane is known as Pelham. This includes several buildings along Germantown Avenue. In recent years, the blocks above Washington Lane (6300 block) have been claimed as part of the neighborhood of Mt. Airy, even though it includes the Germantown landmarks of Cliveden and Upsala. Generally, present-day Mt. Airy includes most of the old Cresheim Village below Cresheim Creek (7600 block), and the neighboring community of Chestnut Hill all of Sommerhausen, Crefeld and the portion of Cresheim above Cresheim Creek. This nominated extension of the Colonial Germantown Historic District includes those sections of Germantown Avenue which traverse what once was Cresheim Village and the extreme northern part of Germantown. All of these blocks now serve as the center of the Mt. Airy community.

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In conclusion, at no time in the long history of Germantown has the present northern boundary of the Colonial Germantown Historic District formed any political or neighborhood dividing line. Therefore, this boundary fails to be justified on any historical grounds.

8.3 GERMANTOWN AVENUE

Germantown Avenue started as that Indian path and was enlarged into a road for the convenience of not only the residents of Germantown Township but also for residents of communities lying farther away from Philadelphia. Thus, Germantown Avenue has served as a major transportation and commercial artery of Pennsylvania since near the founding of this province. Not only did the existence of Germantown Avenue help to open up the interior of Pennsylvania, but the many feeder roads into it connected mills, farms and industries to it. Soon wagons filled with goods of all types were using this road, stopping at the various inns, taverns and hotels lined along it. As a result, Germantown Avenue brought economic prosperity to both Germantown proper and to the outlying areas of Germantown Township, as well as to communities in Montgomery County.

Germantown Avenue itself underwent substantial changes over the years. It became the Germantown & Perkiomen Turnpike in 1801. The new turnpike company improved and paved the road, allowing even greater use of it than before. The dual introduction of the new mass transit systems in the mid-19th century (railroad and street car) affected Germantown Avenue in upper Germantown and Mt. Airy in different ways. The establishment of the Reading Railroad through eastern Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill in 1854 had a great effect upon the development of residential Germantown and Chestnut Hill. The street car line, on the other hand, had an immediate and lasting effect upon the commercial nature of the Avenue when it arrived in 1859 and terminated in the 6700 block.

The turnpike company was abolished in 1874 and the city assumed the responsibility for this street. The road bed was replaced with "rubble stone" which remained until the mid-1920s when the current Belgian Block was installed. The horse car line gave way to the electric trolley in 1894 and the line was extended into Montgomery County in 1894-1896.

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8.4 COMMUNITY PLANNING

The early history of land division in Germantown mirrored that of Philadelphia. Each of the original purchasers received a "town lot" and additional acreage in the "sidelands". These sidelands included the eastern and western borders of the township and the area above Washington Lane. Germantown Avenue's importance to the community as a whole became even greater as it was the only thoroughfare between these town lots and those in the sidelands. Soon, subdivision of the original lots in the sidelands to non-Germantown residents opened the way for smaller villages to be formed, including Beggarstown, or Franklinton, at the intersection of Germantown Avenue and Horner Street, Mt. Pleasant at Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Mt. Airy at Mt. Airy Avenue, Chestnut Hill around the intersection of Bethlehem Pike, and Mechanics Town at Bells Mill Road.

As "Main Street", which was the common name for Germantown Avenue from Wister Street to Chestnut Hill Avenue, this road served as the center for all community activities. The hotels, inns and taverns were patronized not only by travellers but also by local residents. Churches, stores, schools, graveyards, and houses lined this road. Unlike many "Main Streets" which have become largely commercial in nature, Germantown Avenue has continued to retain a fair amount of its mixed usage, especially within the boundaries of the proposed extension.

Germantown Avenue has an unbroken 300-year heritage of residential use. A fair number of houses, detached, semi-detached, and rows, still line the road today. Many of the earliest houses have been converted to other uses. However, such 18th and 19th century landmarks as the Cresheim Cottage (7402-7404 Germantown Avenue), the Garrett House (7048 Germantown Avenue), and the Walters House (7425 Germantown Avenue) retain their original use. Rows of early 20th century housing in various places throughout the extension continue this residential tradition into this century.

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Several major churches were established along Germantown Avenue early in its history. These were often located in the middle of the township to serve all of this inhabitants. The German immigrants who founded the township transplanted the Lutheran religion into their new village, where it still occupies a prominent position throughout Germantown, Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill. St. Michael's Lutheran Church at 6669-6679 Germantown Avenue (founded 1728) served as the mother church for all of the Lutheran churches within this area, for all of these churches can trace their heritage back to it. Another Germanic sect was the Church of the Brethren, or Dunkers (or Dunkards). Founded in Germany in 1708, members of this sect emigrated to Germantown in 1719 where they founded the American Mother Church in 1723. However, the congregation did not erect an edifice until 1770. This structure, sitting at 6611-6613 Germantown Avenue within the extension, stands as the oldest surviving ecclesiastical building along Germantown Avenue within the old township.

The extension also includes several major private, public and ecclesiastical institutions, including the Lutheran Home for Aged and Orphans, the Lutheran Theological Seminary, and the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (now Spring Garden College). The city government is represented by the old fire station building at 6825 Germantown Avenue, the present fire station at 6900 Germantown Avenue, the Lovett Library, a branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, at 6945 Germantown Avenue, and the Mt. Airy Playground at 7001 Germantown Avenue. Other buildings standing within the district still mark the activity of other institutions in the past, i.e. the Mt. Airy Chapter of the International Order of Odd Fellows Building at 7201 Germantown Avenue.

Thus Germantown Avenue in the proposed extension has served many of the same non-commercial purposes as it does within the district already entered upon the National Register of Historic Places. As a result, it has been the focus of most community activities and planning during the existence of the communities which border it.

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8.5 COMMERCE

However, the chief importance of Germantown Avenue lies in its role as a commercial artery. This is the area of significance especially stressed regarding the existing district, as amended. For almost 300 years, commercial activity has been spawned and nurtured along this street. At first, these enterprises were small "cottage industries" operated out of private homes. In the mid-19th century, especially after the opening of the railroad and horse-car lines and the transformation of Germantown into Philadelphia's first suburb, buildings were erected solely for commercial purposes. In Germantown, these buildings included the Parker's Hall, Langstroth Building and Butcher Building, all constructed between 1851 and 1860. Further up the avenue, in the areas covered by this proposed enlargement, similar commercial structures went up at 6536-6538 Germantown Avenue and 6661-6663 Germantown Avenue. They may not have been as fancy as those in Germantown proper, but they served the same general purpose.

Stores in Colonial and early Federal days were often rooms within the proprietor's house. It is likely that some of the houses today remaining from this period were used for stores at one time or another. Millers and farmers from the area would bring their products to Germantown Avenue and exchange them for necessities. Great general stores were known to exist in Germantown and Chestnut Hill during this period: similar enterprises were probably also in operation in Mt. Airy.

Eventually two separate commercial centers evolved within present-day Mount Airy. The lower one was centered by the terminal of the horse car line. This terminal location, greatly enlarged, presently serves as the bus repair shops of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority. The commercial buildings in the 6500, 6600, 6700 and 6800 blocks became integrated into the shopping area within the upper limits of the existing district. The buildings at 6536-6538 Germantown Avenue, with their mid-19th century commercial storefronts still relatively intact, represent the changes found in commercial architecture during the period of change surrounding the installation of the street car line in the 1850s.

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This upper shopping area, in the 7000, 7100 and 7200 blocks, forms the heart of the Mt. Airy commercial center. This became defined early with buildings such as the Shermer House (7167-7169) and the Odd Fellows Hall (7201), both of which were built in the Civil War era. A number of establishments were found along Germantown Avenue during the mid-19th century, many of them agricultural in nature. Wheelwrights, saddlers, harness makers and carriage works were among the businesses located in Mt. Airy in 1861.

It was in the early 20th century that the business community of Mt. Airy decided to improve conditions within the bounds of the upper shopping area. The construction of new buildings in the 1910s and 1920s, i.e., the Mt. Airy National Bank, the Tourison Building, the Rogers Building, the many houses and commercial stores erected by Robert Killough, brought a new vitality to Germantown Avenue. Many of the older structures were removed. Although this caused much of the Colonial heritage in this stretch to become lost, it reinforced the commercial nature of the street and made the statement that Germantown Avenue would continue to be important to the bordering neighborhoods as a commercial center. However, what was occurring in Mt. Airy was not unique to Germantown Avenue for similar changes, with the replacement of early buildings for new ones, was taking place around the intersection of Germantown and Cheltenham avenues.

Throughout the histories of Germantown, Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill, Germantown Avenue has served as a single unifying force, both in an historical sense and in a commercial sense. These neighborhoods still rely upon the shopping districts lining Germantown Avenue for many of their necessities, much as they did in the eighteenth century. However, although the present northern boundary of the Colonial Germantown Historic District cuts through the middle of the 6500 block, the same types of uses along Germantown Avenue may be found on both sides of this boundary and the overall importance of Germantown Avenue in a commercial sense to the communities which border it remains the same.

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Architecturally, both the existing district and the proposed extension contain a hodgepodge of styles. Despite attempts to classify the area in architectural terms, no one style really predominates and sets the theme for the district. This is a strength of the district, for as it was stated in the rewritten nomination for the existing district in 1982: "While largely consistent in scale and material, the stylistic range of the district fully parallels the changing fashions of American Architecture from the Colonial through the modern period."

The architecture, and the architects who designed much of it, carry no small significance either locally or nationally. Indeed, the examples of Colonial and Federal buildings found both within the existing district and within the enlargement served as models for much of the Colonial Revival architecture in the Philadelphia area during the early 20th century. There was indeed a "Germantown Colonial" style during this later period which featured the stone construction, side-gabled shapes, pent eaves and other details of the earlier structures. Nationally prominent architectural firms such as Cope & Stewardson, Mantle Fielding, Duhring, Okie & Ziegler, and Horace Wells Sellers, relied heavily upon these models for their designs. Granted, many of the prime examples of the early buildings are located within the existing district. But additional samples, some excellent in quality, i.e., the Gorgas House at 6901 Germantown Avenue and the Miller Homestead (7331), are situated in the extension.

Another facet of the architectural significance of both the existing district and the extension stems from one's ability to trace the evolution of the rural adaptation of the accepted styles during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Housing styles did not appreciably change from the late 18th to the early 19th centuries. The small sidegabled 2 1/2-story dwellings seen at 6540-42, 6657-59 and 6618 Germantown Avenue are but later examples of the same style of architecture built throughout the Philadelphia region during the 18th century. The basic shape, as seen in the rude stone building of the Beggarstown School erected in 1740 at 6669 Germantown Avenue, changed but little when the St. Michael's Parsonage was erected next door at 6671 Germantown Avenue in 1855. The shape became formalized, and had some decorations added, but generally the residents of the area were comfortable with it and did not tinker with it.

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The middle of the 19th century brought many changes to the communities bordering Germantown Avenue. Architectural changes included the adaptation of new styles to the basic rural farmhouse of the period. The Leibert House (6926) and the St. Michael's Parsonage (6671) stand as excellent examples of this adaptation. The first houses built in strict interpretation of styles appeared in the 1850s, i.e. the Italianate Garrett House (7048). Despite its widespread use in Germantown, few houses of this period still remain along Germantown Avenue within the Central Germantown core. Details of the Italianate were used extensively for commercial architecture throughout the remainder of the 19th century. The store buildings at 6536-6538 Germantown Avenue are notable in their retention of these details.

The advent of the horse car line and suburban railroads, and the increasingly popular notions regarding the separation of residence and workplace generated new conceptions in commercial architecture. The stores found throughout Germantown Avenue which date to the 1850s, 1860s and 1870s (i.e. the Hadden and Springer buildings in the 6600 block and the Royal buildings in the 6800 block) demonstrate that buildings were being designed and built with planned commercial spaces within them. The fire station at 6825 and the Odd Fellows Hall at 7201 Germantown Avenue are superlative examples of planned commercial and institutional spaces tailored to the needs of the rural areas of Philadelphia: in other words, not architecturally ornate but generally no-nonsense utilitarian structures.

Architects actually found the upper Germantown and Mt. Airy sections of Germantown Avenue a more fertile ground for their creations in residential, commercial and institutional design during the last two decades of the 19th century than central Germantown. A number of locally and nationally prominent architects designed important buildings both within the existing district and in the proposed enlargement. These buildings stand as examples of Germantown Avenue's continuing evolution as a commercial core and as prime selections of the various types of architectural styles of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

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The developers of Pelham, Wendell & Smith, commissioned William L. Price to design two Flemish styled buildings at 6620-6624 and 6640 Germantown Avenue in 1895. In addition to Price's work, Thomas P. Lonsdale designed a house and store for James Johnson at 7119 Germantown Avenue (1898), Hazlehurst & Huckel contributed a Queen Anne house at 7047 (1886), the Wilson Brothers (1890-1892) and Cope & Stewardson (1892-1897) worked on the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf campus, Geissinger & Hales (1888) and Otto Frotscher (mid-1890s) planned the original buildings of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, and Frederick Newman designed a new wing for the Lutheran Orphanage (1896). The original chapel, since demolished, of the Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church was built in 1883-1884 from the plans of George T. Pearson. Finally, T. Frank Miller replaced the old St. Michael's church building with a new edifice in 1896.

Most of the architects mentioned above are among the top echelon of Philadelphia architects during this period. The Wilson Brothers, for example, designed the Reading Terminal and the Wayne Junction station for the Reading Railroad. Cope & Stewardson, at this period with the original partners, contributed many academic buildings including the dormitories and several classroom buildings at the universities of Pennsylvania and Princeton. Hazlehurst & Huckel were known for their many Queen Anne styled houses throughout Chestnut Hill, Mt. Airy, Germantown and North Philadelphia. Lonsdale designed the original buildings composing Temple University. And Pearson is one of the few architects to successfully make the transition from the Victorian styles of the late 19th century to the Revival styles of the early 20th century.

The period of progress begun in the late 19th century continued without respite into the early 20th century. Joseph Huston's Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church (1901) and T. Frank Miller's Ascension Lutheran Church (1902) led this wave of architect-designed commercial and institutional buildings which lasted until the Depression. Styles changed dramatically, following the tastes of American architecture. No longer were the Victorian styles in vogue. The Queen Anne, Victorian Gothic and Second Empire had given way to the new Revival styles including the Gothic for church and academic buildings, and Colonial and Georgian for residences and commercial structures. Watson & Huckel's Georgian Revival design for Miss Gorgas' store at 7152 Germantown Avenue exists as a good small example of this change in style. Lawrence V. Boyd designed two Colonial Revival buildings: Clement Lowe's house at 6630 (1904) and the Post Office at 6700 Germantown Avenue (1909). Thomas & Churchman also contributed a major Georgian Revival structure: the Pelham Trust Company at 6740 Germantown Avenue in 1907. At the extreme north end of the extension stands John T. Windrim's Colonial Revival design for Walter Shipley's coal office (1915).

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The embracement of the Revival styles occurred all along Germantown Avenue. The examples indicated in the nominated extension have counterparts throughout the existing district, thus reinforcing the argument that the two are inextricably related architecturally. Many of the later buildings, especially those erected as residences or for institutional use, draw many of their details from the earlier 18th and 19th century Colonial and Federal structures located along Germantown Avenue.

The continuing influence of professional architects into the 1920s helped change Mt. Airy's major commercial district in the 7100 and 7200 blocks in the same manner in which they altered the face of central Germantown, transforming it from a 19th century village with small shops within buildings erected for residential uses to a commercial center with buildings constructed primarily for commercial uses. These architects and their commissions included J. Ethan Fieldstein (7136-7140), William H. Lee (Sedgwick Theatre, 7133-7141), Tunis & Baker (Tourison Building, 7200-7206), and Norman Hulme (Mt. Airy National Bank, 7208-7210). The Sedgwick Theater and the Tourison Building are both prime examples of Art Deco architecture; the Mt. Airy National Bank is a late example of the Colonial Revival. The Colonial Revival did make a comeback within the proposed extension especially within the campus of the Lutheran Home for Orphans where several buildings of this style were designed by Herman Miller in the 1920s and by Heacock & Hokanson in the 1930s.

8.7 EDUCATION

Surprisingly, Mt. Airy's chief contribution to American society has been the educational facilities located along Germantown Avenue. The earliest extant school building in Germantown, the Beggarstown School, is located at 6669 Germantown Avenue, built in 1740. The Allen estate became the site of several leading schools of their respective ages. In 1807, the Rev. Francis Xavier Brosius started the Mt. Airy Seminary in the Allen mansion. It later became the American Classical & Military Lyceum, a school which counted a number of prominent Americans among its graduates and professors.

After the close of the Lyceum, the property served as a summer and permanent residence of William Rogers and James Gowen. Gowen demolished the old Allen mansion to build Magnolia Villa. At heart, he was an avid agriculturist and established the Mt. Airy Agricultural Institute in the old Miller Homestead at 7331 Germantown Avenue, next to Magnolia Villa. This pioneering school for scientific farming eventually led to the establishment of the Pennsylvania State University.

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Since 1888, the Allen-Gowen property has again served as an important educational institution: the Lutheran Theological Seminary. Another major institution, the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, opened the doors of its new campus less than one block away in 1890-1892. In 1984, the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf sold this campus to the Spring Garden College, another venerable Philadelphia school. Thus, the tradition of higher education which had marked Mt. Airy's history for almost 200 years is destined to continue.

8.8 SUMMARY

In summary, the Mt. Airy extension of the Colonial Germantown Historic District deserves to be included onto the National Register of Historic Places because it contributes in no little way to the history of Philadelphia and it expands and strengthens the significance of the existing district. The northern boundary of the existing district is drawn awkwardly with no justification on any historical, architectural or commercial grounds. In fact, some of the more important historical structures of Colonial Germantown stand just outside the existing district. The focus of both the existing district and the proposed enlargement, Germantown Avenue, possesses the same significance, both nationally and locally, for both areas. The character of the two are similar, in architectural styles, in uses, in building materials, and in their various developments. The enlargement of the Colonial Germantown Historic District would reinforce the main argument for its original inclusion onto the National Register: that it acted, and has continued to act, as the major catalyst for the development of the various communities within the boundaries of the old Germantown Township.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 118

Quadrangle name Germantown

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	1 8	4 8 3 2 9 0	4 4 3 4 9 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 8	4 8 3 6 2 0	4 4 3 3 6 1 0
E			
G			

B	1 8	4 8 4 2 5 0	4 4 3 2 9 7 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 8	4 8 3 2 2 0	4 4 3 4 1 9 0
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheets

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jefferson M. Moak

organization The Chestnut Hill Almanac

date 11 January 1987

street & number P. O. Box 27075

telephone 215-CH2-5264

city or town Philadelphia

state Pennsylvania 19118

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Dr. Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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10: VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Owing to the peculiar path that Germantown Avenue takes and the general angle of the road to true north and south, the description belows uses the same directions as commonly given to the road and the side street, i.e. Germantown Avenue runs north and south, and the side roads east and west. In general, these can be converted as follows: north = northwest; south = southeast; east = northeast; west = southwest.

Beginning at the northeast corner of Germantown Avenue and Sharpnack Street, thence east to the rear property line of 6601 Germantown Avenue, thence north along the rear property lines of the properties facing the east side of Germantown Avenue to Montana Street, thence north across Montana Street and along the rear property lines of 6631-6645 Germantown Avenue to Hortter Street, thence north across Hortter Street and along the rear property lines of 6647-6667 Germantown Avenue, thence north crossing Springer Street to the north side of Springer Street, thence east along the north side of Springer Street to the west side of Ross Street, thence north along the west side of Ross Street to the south side of Phil-Ellena Street, thence west along the south side of Phil-Ellena Street to a point opposite the rear property line of 6701 Germantown Avenue, thence north across Phil-Ellena Street and along the rear property lines of 6701-6705 Germantown Avenue, thence east along the south property line of 6707 Germantown Avenue to the west side of Musgrave Street, thence north along the west side of Musgrave Street to the southern boundary line of 6752 Musgrave Street, thence along this southern boundary and a private alley behind 2-68 E. Slocum Street to the rear property line of 6745 Germantown Avenue, thence along this and other rear property lines to the south side of Slocum Street.

Thence east along the south side of the aforesaid Slocum Street to a point opposite the rear property line of 6755 Germantown Avenue, thence crossing Slocum Street and running north along the rear property lines of 6755-6763 Germantown Avenue, thence east along the south property line of 6765 Germantown Avenue to the rear property line of 6765 Germantown Avenue, thence north along this and other rear property lines to the south side of Pleasant Street, thence west along the south side of Pleasant Street to a point opposite the rear property line of 6801 Germantown Avenue, thence north along the rear property lines of 6801-6815 Germantown Avenue to the south side of Meehan Street.

Thence crossing the aforesaid Meehan Street and running north along the various rear property lines of 6817-6845 Germantown Avenue to the south side of Gorgas Lane, thence crossing Gorgas Lane, thence running east along the north side of Gorgas Lane to the west side of a private alley separating the rear of 6901 Germantown Avenue from 135 Gorgas Lane, thence north along this private alley to a point where the private alley turns east, thence east along this private alley to the rear property line of 6901 Germantown Avenue, thence

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north along this and other rear property lines to the south side of Sedgwick Street, thence crossing Sedgwick Street and running east to the rear property line of 7001 Germantown Avenue, thence running north along the rear property lines of 7001-7035 Germantown Avenue, thence running west along the north property line of 7035 Germantown Avenue to an intersection with the rear property line of 7047 Germantown Avenue, thence north along the rear property line of 7047 Germantown Avenue to the north property line of the aforesaid 7047 Germantown Avenue, thence west along this north property line of the aforesaid 7047 Germantown Avenue to the east property line of 7051 Germantown Avenue, also known as 2 E. Mt. Pleasant Avenue, thence along this east property line to the south side of Mt. Pleasant Avenue.

Thence crossing the aforesaid Mt. Pleasant Avenue and running east along the north side of Mt. Pleasant Avenue to the rear property line of 7101 Germantown Avenue, thence along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the east side of Germantown Avenue to the south side of Durham Street, thence crossing Durham Street and north along the rear property lines of 7127-7169 Germantown Avenue to the south side of Mt. Airy Avenue, thence crossing Mt. Airy Avenue and running east along the north side of Mt. Airy Avenue to the rear property line of 7201 Germantown Avenue, thence running north along the rear property lines of 7201-7205 Germantown Avenue, thence west along the north property line of 7205 Germantown Avenue to the east side of Germantown Avenue, thence north along the east side of Germantown Avenue to the north property line of 7215 Germantown Avenue.

Thence east along the aforesaid north property line of 7215 Germantown Avenue and the rear property lines of the properties on the north side of Mt. Airy Avenue to a point, thence north along the rear property lines of the properties on the west side of Boyer Street to a point, thence west along the rear property lines of the properties on the south side of Gowen Avenue to a point, thence north along the west boundary line of 20 E. Gowen Avenue to the south side of Gowen Avenue, all of the property mentioned in this paragraph belonging to the campus of the Lutheran Theological Seminary.

Thence crossing the aforesaid Gowen Avenue and north along the various rear property lines of the properties at 7401-7447 Germantown Avenue, thence west along the north property line of 7447 Germantown Avenue to the east side of Germantown Avenue, thence north along Germantown Avenue to the north side of McPherson Street, thence east along the north side of McPherson Street to the rear property line of 7501 Germantown Avenue, thence along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the east side of Germantown Avenue to the south side of Roumfort Road, thence crossing Roumfort Road and north along the rear property lines of 7601-7625 Germantown Avenue to the old right-of-way of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

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Thence west along the aforesaid right-of-way of the Pennsylvania Railroad across Germantown Avenue and in a great quarter-circle to the right-of-way of the SEPTA's Chestnut Hill West commuter line, thence south along the SEPTA's right-of-way to the north property line of 7366 Rural Lane, thence east along this property line and along the north side of W. Gowen Avenue to the rear property line of 57 W. Gowen Avenue, thence east along the rear property lines of the houses facing the north side of W. Gowen Avenue to the property lines of 7402-7404 Germantown Avenue, thence along the property lines of 7402-7404 Germantown Avenue to the west side of Germantown Avenue.

Thence south along the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north property line of 7330 Germantown Avenue, thence west along the north property line of 7330 Germantown Avenue to the rear property line of 7330 Germantown Avenue, thence south along thence and other rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Allen's Lane, thence across Allen's Lane and south along the rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Nippon Street, thence south across Nippon Street and along the rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Mt. Airy Avenue, thence south across Mt. Airy Avenue and along the rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Durham Street.

Thence south across the aforesaid Durham Street to a private alley, thence along the west side of this private alley to the rear property line of 18 W. Durham Street, thence west along the rear property lines of 18-44 W. Durham Street to the rear property lines of the buildings on the east side of Bryan Street, thence south along the rear property lines of the buildings on the east side of Bryan Street to the rear property lines of the buildings on the north side of W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue, thence east along the rear property lines of the buildings on the north side of W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue to the rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue, thence along the rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Mt. Pleasant Avenue.

Thence across the aforesaid Mt. Pleasant Avenue and south along the rear property lines of 7060-7056 Germantown Avenue to the north property line of 7044 Germantown Avenue, thence west along the north property line of 7044 Germantown Avenue to the rear property line of 7044 Germantown Avenue, thence south along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Sedgwick Street.

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Thence across the aforesaid Sedgwick Street and west along the south side of Sedgwick Street to the north property line of 100 W. Sedgwick Street, thence along the north property line of 100 W. Sedgwick Street to the rear property of 100 W. Sedgwick Street, thence west along the rear property lines of 100-140 W. Sedgwick Streets to the west property line of 140 W. Sedgwick Street, thence north along the west property line of 140 W. Sedgwick Street to the south side of Sedgwick Street, thence west along the south side of Sedgwick Street to the east side of Cresheim Road, thence south along the east side of Cresheim Road to the rear property lines of the houses on the north side of Gorgas Lane, thence east along the rear property lines of the aforesaid north side of Gorgas Lane to the east side of Mower Street, thence south along the east side of Mower Street to the north side of Carpenter Lane, thence east along the north side of Carpenter Lane to a point opposite the rear property line of 6790 Germantown Avenue, all of the property mentioned within this paragraph belonging to the Lutheran Home for Orphans, with the exception of the northwest corner of Germantown Avenue and Carpenter Lane upon which sits a Philadelphia Fire House.

Thence south across the aforesaid Carpenter Lane and along the rear property line of 6790 Germantown Avenue to the west side of Germantown Avenue, thence along the north and rear property line of 6782 Germantown Avenue to the rear property line of 6780 Germantown Avenue, thence south along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Pelham Road, thence east along the north side of Pelham Road to a point opposite the rear property line of 6736 Germantown Avenue, thence south across Pelham Road and along the rear property line of 6736-6732 Germantown Avenue to the north property line of 6730 Germantown Avenue, thence west along the north property line of 6730 Germantown Avenue to the rear property line of 6730 Germantown Avenue, thence south along this and other rear property lines to the north side of Westview Street.

Thence south crossing the aforesaid Westview Street and west along the south side of the aforesaid Westview Street, thence south along the rear property lines of 6660-6640 Germantown Avenue to the north side of Phil-Ellena Street, thence crossing Phil-Ellena Street and west along the south side of Phil-Ellena Street to the rear property line of 6630 Germantown Avenue, thence south along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north property line of 6618 Germantown Avenue, thence west along the north property line of 6618 Germantown to the rear property line of 6618 Germantown Avenue, thence south along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Hortter Street, thence across Hortter Street and west along the south side of Hortter Street to the rear property line of 6558 Germantown Avenue, thence along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north property line of 6544 Germantown Avenue, thence west to the rear property line of 6544 Germantown Avenue, thence south along this line to the north side of Good Street.

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Thence east along the north side of the aforesaid Good Street to a point opposite the rear property line of 6542 Germantown Avenue, thence south across Good Street and along this and other rear property lines of the buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north property line of 6634 Germantown Avenue, thence west along the north property line of 6634 Germantown Avenue to the rear property line of 6634 Germantown Avenue, thence south along this and other rear property lines of buildings on the west side of Germantown Avenue to the north side of Sharpnack Street, thence east along the north side of Sharpnack Street to the west side of Germantown Avenue, thence crossing Germantown Avenue at an angle to the point of beginning.

Boundary Increase

The boundary includes the lots and buildings adjacent to the historic street of Germantown Avenue. This boundary contains those buildings and land that directly contribute to and are most closely associated with the history and architecture of Germantown Avenue. This boundary is also in keeping with the boundary for the Colonial Germantown Historic District that is already listed on the National Register. The existing district's boundary similarly includes only those buildings and lots that are immediately adjacent to Germantown Avenue.

This boundary excludes those buildings and land that do not directly contribute to the history and architecture of Germantown Avenue.

